

Wanderers count Cup failure cost

THE full cost of Wycombe Wanderers' shock dismissal at Maidenhead in the first qualifying round of last season's F.A. Cup competition is made clear in the club's balance sheet for 1971-72.

Sent round to members before tonight's annual meeting (Royal British Legion, St. Mary's Street, 7.30 p.m.) the account records a drop of over £5,000 in overall Cup tie revenue from the previous season, when Wanderers reached the first round proper.

They netted only £1,186 as opposed to the 1970-71 net figure of £6,536, even though the club again fought through to the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup final and went one stage further in the Amateur Cup.

DEFICIT

In itself, the setback explains Wanderers' sizeable deficit for a season, in which they once again took the Isthmian League championship.

The balance sheet shows a loss of £2,822, although the club's share of the Amateur Cup pool — approximately £850 — is not taken into consideration in the Cup tie figure.

The deficit was kept down by donations totalling over £2,000 from the Supporters Club and £600 by Luton Town F.C.

Secretary Bert Crump, in his annual report, writes: "Financially we were not so successful, due principally to an early exit from the F.A. Cup and to the fact of some of our more attrac-

tive home League games falling on unfortunate dates.

"As a result of this, we were obliged to require the assistance of the Supporters Club, who most readily obliged with suitable donations, which are gratefully acknowledged."

Mr. Crump, however, adds that, with the appointment of a full-time organiser, "the Development Fund is now showing a handsome return, and we look forward to using a large part of this money during the coming season for necessary improvements to our amenities."

A TWO-MAN committee to act as "watchdog" on club expenditure is to be formed as part of a new five-point re-organisation plan aimed at tightening up on Wycombe Wanderers' finances.

Explains secretary Bert Crump: "We have not only to improve our income, but also to watch economies on our expenditure." The finance team consists of existing committee members, reporting back to their colleagues.

It is the latest step in a purge designed to avoid as far as possible a repeat of last season's losses.

As revealed in last Friday's 'Bucks Free Press,' the blueprint includes increases in admission prices for Isthmian League games at Loakes Park. Charges for adults and children go up an extra 5p, as do

Up go prices at Loakes Pk.

WYCOMBE Wanderers supporters will have to pay more to see the Isthmian League champions in action at Loakes Park next season.

New admission prices are (corresponding Premier Midweek League charges in brackets) — Adults 25p (20p), Children 15p (10p), O.A.P.s 5p (5p). Stand and enclosure 15p extra.

In terms of increase, the new figures represent an additional 5p for adults and children at Isthmian League games, while the Floodlight League remains as last season. Stand and enclosure charges for Isthmian fixtures also rise by 5p.

NET LOSS

This follows a season in which Wycombe retained the Isthmian title, yet still incurred a net loss of over £1,000, despite dona-

tions of more than £3,000 from the Supporters club.

Following their policy aimed at making full use of Loakes Park facilities, the parent club has "amicably agreed" with the Supporters Club that it should take over the running of the club-house and bar.

Explains secretary Bert Crump: "This involves the formation of a new club to be known as 'The Blues Social Club' and the appointment of a full-time manager. The Supporters Club will continue and its membership will have automatic access to the bar and clubhouse facilities."

scene

By

Mike Whitesman

Stand and enclosure tickets.

Meanwhile club membership will cost £4 (male or female) and £2 (juniors), with an additional £3 for Reserved Stand seating.

A second major step toward increasing income concerns the clubhouse and bar, to be run next season by the parent club following an "amicable" agreement with the Supporters club.

"This involves the formation of a new club to be known as 'The Blues Social Club' and

the appointment of a full-time manager," said Mr. Crump. "The Supporters club will continue and its membership will have automatic access to the bar and clubhouse facilities."

Vice Presidents will no longer be elected automatically upon payment of a given fee. Instead they will be either invited to accept the position by the club or by proposition by members subject to final acceptance by the general committee.

The move brings Wanderers into line with the common practice of other sporting clubs or associations.

Restrictions are to be placed on the use of the car park, with access limited to players, club officials, match officials and visiting officials "to avoid encroaching on to the training pitch."

"We regret any inconvenience caused to our members who have in the past regularly used the Car Park," said the secretary, "but the position will be reviewed at a later date."